



Far Western District

Convention Honoree

Bill Tieberg – 2025 FWD Spring Convention Honoree



Bill Tieberg began his 67-year barbershop career as a 10th grade student in Minnesota. His first quartet, the Ore-Bits, was a salute to both the local iron mines and the early days of space exploration.

While attending the University of Minnesota he was a member of the Minneapolis Commodores. During a stint in the Air Force he sang in another quartet. After discharge he returned to the Commodores where he remained until he moved to California and joined the Pasadena Chorus and a quartet, the Paradesmen. A subsequent move to the Bay Area found Bill singing with the San Francisco Cable Car Chorus and in another quartet, The Pacific Union Club. When the PUC folded he transferred to the Peninsula Chorus.

In 1974 the Peninsulaires competed in the International Chorus Contest where they edged out the Vocal Majority and won silver behind the Thoroughbreds. The stirring WWI package Peninsula presented was a brilliant performance, and it was in the planning and creation of that package that Bill began to demonstrate his abilities as a coach.

A second outcome of the contest was the birth of a quartet which still has the record for the longest name in Society History, The San Francisco Storm Door and Whale Oil Company, which was too long to include on the score sheets. The 'Doors', as they were known, were District champions in 1975 and competed in the International Contest six times. During their years together they sang on shows throughout the Society and were guests at the BABS convention.

After the quartet retired Bill put to use his coaching skills, and in addition to serving on the faculty of Harmony College West he mentored and coached many burgeoning quartets. His final quartet, Executive Privilege, once again showcased his vocal talents.

Their disbanding coincided with Bill's retirement, at which point he moved to Oceanside. Although he visited both the Masters of Harmony and Pacific Coast Harmony he was diagnosed with cancer of the larynx, and the radiation treatments damaged his voice, rendering it impossible for him to sing. Nonetheless until just a few years ago he continued to do some teaching and coaching, and he still gets his barbershop fix at shows and conventions.